

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 03709 101800Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-07 /023 W
-----102058Z 119194 /70

P R 101554Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO USIA WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 1301

UNCLAS LISBON 3709

USINFO FOR IOP/M, IBS/PE/HAUSEMAN; IOA/FW
USIA FOR IEU/MCLAUGHLIN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, PO, U.S.
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

1. LONDON FOCUS: VIRTUALLY ALL PORTUGUESE NEWSPAPERS MAY 10
FOCUSED ATTENTION ON LONDON'S NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL MEETING,
SCHEDULED SESSIONS BETWEEN PRESIDENTS EANES AND CARTER AND
RELATED EVENTS. TELEVISION AND RADIO DEVOTED TIME TO THESE
SUBJECTS, AS WELL. MOST MEDIA COVERAGE WAS STRAIGHT-FORWARD NEWS.

2. CARTER-EANES: THE SCHEDULED MEETING BETWEEN THE CHIEFS
OF STATE OF PORTUGAL AND THE U.S. WAS PROCLAIMED IN THREE
TO FOUR COLUMN HEADS BY SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS. MANY PREDICTED
THAT THE TWO MEN CERTAINLY WOULD DISCUSS THE REPORTED
AGREEMENT BETWEEN WEST GERMANY AND THE U.S. TO LUMP
\$200 AND \$300 MILLION RESPECTIVELY TOWARDS A MULTILATERAL
LOAN FOR PORTUGAL. THE PRO-GOP "DIARIO DE NOTICIAS",
REPORTING ON EANES' FIRST DAY IN LONDON,
SAID THE PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT CONTACTED LEADERS OF
OTHER NATO NATIONS, "MORE NOTABLY" CHANCELLOR HELMUT
SCHMIDT WHO, ACCORDING TO THE PAPER, CONFIRMED WEST
GERMANY'S INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LOAN.

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THE NEWSPAPER ADDED THAT SCHMIDT ALSO REAFFIRMED HIS
COUNTRY'S SUPPORT FOR PORTUGAL'S EFFORT TO ENTER THE
EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET.

2. NATO: IN A SEPARATE ARTICLE, "DIARIO DE NOTICIAS"
UNDERSCORED U.S. COMMITMENT TO NATO. THE STORY, WHICH
RAN NINE INCHES-DEEP ACROSS FOUR COLUMNS, WAS WRITTEN BY

THE PAPER'S INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR IQBAL AHMED, WHO TOOK PART IN A USIA-CORDINATED EUROPEAN JOURNALISTS DEFENSE-SECURITY TOUR. AHMED WROTE: "FIVE TIMES IN LESS THAN FIVE MONTHS, THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION STRESSED ITS COMMITMENT TO NATO; AND LAST WEEK IT WAS PRESIDENT CARTER HIMSELF WHO EMPHASIZED THIS FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE IN A PRESS CONFERENCE.... IN THIS INTERVIEW WHICH MARKED THE END OF HIS HONEYMOON OF 100 DAYS IN THE WHITE HOUSE, CARTER ... AFFIRMED THAT THE CONSIDERS A STRONG EUROPE -- UNITED AND PROSPEROUS -- INDISPENSABLE TO OUR OWN FUTURE ..." MEANWHILE, ON THE EVE OF HIS DEPARTURE FOR LONDON, PRESIDENT EANES REPORTEDLY TOLD THE MEDIA (COMMUNIST-LINE "O DIARIO DE LISBOA"): "THE PORTUGUESE POSITION IN NATO IS COMPLETELY DEFINED. THERE IS, HOWEVER, A NECESSITY FOR PORTUGAL, TOGETHER WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE, TO TRY TO CONSTRUCT A DIFFERENT SOLIDARITY, A COMPLETE ATLANTIC SOLIDARITY."

3. LOAN: MEDIA ATTENTION STILL IS RATHER EXTENSIVE ON WHAT SOME OF THE MEDIA DESCRIBE HERE AS THE "BIG LOAN",", WITH THE COMMUNIST-ORIENTED "O DIARIO" CONTINUING ITS NEGATIVE TREATMENT. "THE LOAN", IT WROTE IN A PAGE-ONE BOX, "WAS ACCORDING TO THE GOVERNMENT A CERTAINITY TO MONTHS AGO. LATER, THE IMAGINARY CONSORTIUM DESTROYED ITSELF. THE 'LOANS' THEN HAD TO DEPEND ON BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. BUT, THE BEST HYPOTHESES IS THAT NEITHER DOLLARS OR MARKS WILL ARRIVE UNTIL 1978." ARTICLE CONCLUDED BY CRITICIZING THE GOP FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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ANNOUNCING THE LOAN PREMATURELY.

4. MONDALE-YOUNG: PORTUGUESE MEDIA VIEW THIS WEEK'S MEETING OF VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AND U.N. AMBASSADOR YOUNG IN LISBON AS HAVING PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE IN REGARD TO U.S. AFRICAN POLICY. COMMUNIST-LINE "DIARIO DE LISBOA" MAY 9 HEADLINE WAS: "LISBON IS THE AMERICAN TRAMPOLINE TO REACH SOUTH AFRICA." JORDAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUMMIT MEETINGS, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770164-1118
Format: TEL
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770575/aaaacmnn.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 46174597-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2585216
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA REACTION
TAGS: SOPN, PO, US, GE, NAC, NATO, (EANES, ANTONIO DOS SANTOS RAMALHO), (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: USIA
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/46174597-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009